

REMARKS

The Examiner in paragraph 1 of the Official Action objected to claim 22 for the informalities set forth therein. By this amendment, applicants have amended the claim as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, this objection is no longer applicable.

The Examiner in paragraph 3 of the Official Action rejected claim 22 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over de Passillè (US Patent 4,423,593) in view of Beasley (US Patent 2002/0149195) for the reasons set forth in paragraph 3.

The Examiner cites de Passillè as disclosing the claimed invention except for the labels having a protective coating such that an official postal constellation mark will not be permanently adhered to the personal image.

The Examiner relies on Beasley for disclosing the making of a personalized postage stamp having a protective coating.

The present invention is directed to a kit wherein a first sheet is provided having a plurality of official postal products having a second area for receiving a personal image. A second sheet is provided in a plurality of labels each having a personal image and the personal image being designed for placement in the second area of the official postal product. The labels are designed so that there is a coating provided thereon that will prevent an official postal cancellation mark for being permanently adhered to the personal image.

The Beasley reference is directed to a sheet where there is provided an optional protective coating 120 onto the printed side of the final product so that the product can be framed. See column 3, paragraph 30, lines 10-13 thereof. The present invention allows the place where the cancellation mark can be adhered to the official postal of the official postal product and a second area where a label is provided wherein the label has a protective coating for preventing permanent adherence of a cancellation mark. The Beasley reference is directed to a situation where the entire product is coated. There is no teaching or suggestion of coating only the personal image area of the combined structure. Since Beasley is directed to coating the entire structure, it teaches away from providing a section for receiving a cancellation mark as taught and claimed by applicants. An important part of the present invention is that there is provided an area where a cancellation mark can be accepted and a second area containing a personal image area i.e. the

label, wherein the cancellation mark will not be adhered. Since Beasely is directed to providing a protective coating on the entire printed side, it teaches away from combining with the de Passillè. The de Passillè reference is directed to providing an official postal product wherein a personal image may be provided. However, there is no teaching for providing the placement of a protective coating over the official postal product. If a protective coating was provided on the combined sheet, there would be also provided a coating on the official postal. See Fig. 1.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that there is no motivation or suggestion of combining Beasely with de Passillè as suggested by the Examiner. Quite the contrary, applicants respectfully submits that the prior art teaches away from this.

In view of the foregoing applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Frank Pincelli", written over a horizontal line.

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